

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GUATEM 01214 150059Z

61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-59 FDRE-00 IO-11 SP-02 HEW-02 DHA-02

SCS-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00 SSO-00 INR-07 INRE-00 /097 W

----- 100007

O 150040Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 259

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

PANCANAL IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 1214

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, SREF, GT,PN,SWEL

SUBJ: GUATEMALAN EARTHQUAKE: GOP REQUEST FOR TRANSPORTATION

REF: (A) PANAMA 1147 (B) STATE 036640

1. WE CONCUR WITH WASHINGTON'S VIEW (STATE 34665) THAT
USG SHOULD NOT FINANCE THIRD-COUNTRY TRANSPORTATION.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE MAY ON OCCASION BE OVERRIDING
POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH REQUIRE AN EXCEPTION
TO THIS RULE. PANAMA'S REQUEST MAY WELL BE SUCH A CASE
AND WE UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE ARGUMENTS SET FORTH
BY AMBASSADOR JORDEN IN REFTEL A. MOREOVER, POINT MADE
IN ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS' CABLE (STATE 036640
REPEATED INFO USSOUTHCOM). ABOUT SEEKING TO USE SECRETARY'S
STOPOVER IN GUATEMALA TO PROVIDE FAVORABLE PUBLICITY ON
SOUTHCOM DISASTER ASSISTANCE TENDS TO REINFORCE AMBASSADOR
JORDEN'S VIEW.
2. DECISION IS OBVIOUSLY UP TO DEPARTMENT BUT WE
AGREE THAT THERE IS JUSTIFICATION FOR MAKING AN EXCEPTION
IN THE CASE OF PANAMA ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS, AND THAT IT COULD
BE DEFENDED.
MELOY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, EARTHQUAKES, TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GUATEM01214
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760057-0990
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760246/aaaabocx.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 PANAMA 1147, 76 STATE 36640
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUL 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by powellba>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUATEMALAN EARTHQUAKE: GOP REQUEST FOR TRANSPORTATION
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, SREF, SWEL, GT, PN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006